



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL KIVA
3939 DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2009**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alsbaugh, Vice Chair
James Duchene, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
Harry Schlegelmilch, Commissioner

ABSENT: John Faramelli, Commissioner

STAFF: Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager
Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director
Don Davis, Parks and Recreation Manager
Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager
Doris McClay, Associate Planner
Hugh McGill, Parks and Recreation Manager
William Murphy, Executive Director of Community Services
Lorelei Oien, Admin Secretary
Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager
Mary Vandevord, AICP, Planner

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Frost called for a moment of silence. He welcomed Harry Schlegelmilch to the Commission.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- **Regular Meeting of October 7, 2009.**

Chair Frost corrected the name of the empty station mentioned in item 12, and clarified that the museum is not located in that building.

COMMISSIONER KING MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 7, 2009 REGULAR MEETING, AS AMENDED. VICE-CHAIR ALSPAUGH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0).

5. GREATER AIRPARK COMMUNITY AREA PLAN

Mary Vandevord, AICP, Planner, and Doris McClay, Associate Planner will provide presentation and will lead discussion on draft Greater Airpark Community Area Plan.

Ms. Vandevord provided a report on the draft of the Greater Airpark Community Area Plan. The plan establishes a 20-year, long-range vision for the Airpark. It will be used to guide the City's daily policy decisions and establish an implementation framework. The City has six community area plans. Each will have a separate chapter in the 2011 updated General Plan. The Airpark area contains key features such as the airport, the TPC Golf Course, the Scottsdale Sports Complex, and WestWorld.

Through an extensive public outreach effort, the community identified the most important elements to include in the plan. The two most important are enhancing mobility and wayfinding around the Airpark, and sustaining the existing neighborhoods. Also among the identified top priorities was the need for more recreation and open space. A Staff analysis concluded that maintaining the positive image of the Airpark, linking and expanding recreational and tourism assets, and sustaining the Airport's economic contributions to the city should also be among the goals of the effort. Ms. McClay said the community requested more mixed-use development in the area. Development flexibility, such as offering performance-based incentives in exchange for public benefits like open space for parks and infrastructure upgrades will encourage new land uses and new types of development.

The plan promotes the creation of a meaningful, interconnected network of open spaces throughout the area. The regional tourism area encourages event facilities, tourist attractions, cultural amenities, recreational opportunities, and residential uses. It incorporates gathering spaces and recreational opportunities in the design of mixed-use developments; promotes park, open space, and trail connections in new mixed-use developments; promotes maintaining and enhancing the recreational use of the trail and path system, and sustains and enhances recreational facilities and services. The northern area contains more potential for open space. Ms. McClay used a map to illustrate how the

plan addresses community concerns about walkability. Environmental sensitivity and sustainability could be addressed through a program of energy use reduction. The area could serve as a national model for energy efficient employment centers. To address wayfinding, the plan proposes a connected system of signature corridors, each with their own theme, and intersections featuring unique landmarks. A set of gateways would indicate key entrances to the Airpark. The plan is available on the City's website.

Commissioner King inquired whether a drainage basin would be available for additional uses. Ms. Vandevord responded that the intent is to use it as a community park in the future. Commissioner Koczka inquired about the problem of east/west travel through the Airport itself. Ms. Vandevord responded that the funding set aside to initially build a tunnel under the runway will now be used for a ring road around the Airport to improve traffic flow and reduce bottlenecks.

Commissioner Duchene expressed concern that a lot of money would be spent to create features that might make a good impression, but that not many people would use. The northern portion of the area has little in common with the southern portion, and he doubted whether enough demand exists for pedestrian/bicycle linkages between the two. Ms. Vandevord responded that the plan incorporates elements of the City's approved master plans for trails and transportation. Commissioner King felt that creating and linking more trails encourages more people to use them for recreational purposes.

Chair Frost inquired about Commissioner representation in the process. Ms. Vandevord responded that, initially, each area was supposed to have its own subcommittee, but budget reductions made that impossible. Instead, a working group will be established to review the General Plan, and a Commissioner from the PRC will be appointed to that group. Chair Frost said the Commission has long been opposed to the creation of community pocket parks. If the plan includes them, they should be owned, operated and maintained by businesses. He expressed doubts about the effectiveness of LEED and inquired about requiring LEED certification from the corporate world. Ms. Vandevord said that the City's focus has been on an incentive-based initiative, rather than a mandatory one.

6. ELDORADO BALLFIELD RESTROOM RENOVATION PROJECT

Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager, and Elaine Mercado, Capital Project Management Manager, will provide an update on the Eldorado Park ball field restroom renovation/ADA improvements and the conceptual design.

Mr. Barnard reported on the Eldorado ball field improvements. They include full replacement of the irrigation system, re-leveling of the three fields, and lengthening the fields to make them more suitable for adult play. The plan would also provide improved and additional ADA access to the restroom building and the fields. The original budget for the field realignment and leveling was \$1.129 million. The City secured over \$300,000 to apply towards the last portion of the project. It will take about three to four months to complete. Most of the construction work will occur in the daytime, and should not have a significant impact on programs. Staff will provide alternative access routes whenever necessary.

Vice-Chair Alspaugh said the new improvements would be a great help to people who have a difficult time maneuvering at events in the park.

7. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, and Don Davis, Reed Pryor, Tim Barnard, Terry Erickson, and Hugh McGill, Parks and Recreation Managers, will provide update on content and status of Parks and Recreation's Strategic Plan.

Ms. Cameron described the process Staff has taken to update the Strategic Plan, keeping in mind the City Manager's goal of running a leaner, more nimble and sustainable organization. A consulting firm was hired to assist in developing the plan. Twenty-five staff members were asked to craft a practical vision for the next three years and identify the challenges that could prevent realization of that vision. Four main tasks were identified:

- Define Departmental direction.
- Develop problem-solving processes
- Develop support for Parks and Recreation
- Value and empower employees

Vice-Chair Alspaugh offered the Commission's assistance in the endeavor.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORT

The commissioners will give updates on events and activities they have attended since the last commission meeting.

Commissioner Koczka said the new Grayhawk facilities are great, and the dog park will prove to be a much appreciated addition. Vice-Chair Alspaugh said the maintenance staff at Grayhawk Park did a fabulous job in preparing the fields for the opening. Commissioner Schlegelmilch expressed admiration for the continuous improvement that is shown every time the City builds new facilities. Chair Frost said he attended the Railfair event this year. The number of train clubs that attend seems to grow every year. Parking was a little difficult because of road construction. Commissioner Duchene complimented the courteous attitude of the staff at the McDowell Mountain Aquatic Center.

Chair Frost called upon a Commissioner to represent Parks and Recreation in the General Plan work group. The meeting schedule has not been set yet. Commissioner Koczka expressed interest, and Commissioner Schlegelmilch requested more information about the required level of involvement.

Chair Frost said he attended a tour of Papago Park as part of the regional planning effort with neighboring communities. Papago Park includes several Tempe parks, the Botanical Gardens, the Zoo, the golf course, a museum, and many other things. The goal is to make it a major regional facility like Balboa Park in San Diego.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, will update the Commission on the status of events and activities of the Parks and Recreation, and Parks and Grounds Management Divisions. This includes, but is not limited to, updates on programming, special events, calendars, and upcoming meetings.

Ms. Cameron reported that park and facility use is increasing rapidly as the weather begins to cool. The ramadas at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park are reserved through March. She thanked the Commissioners who supported the opening of Grayhawk Park and attended the Railfair. The aquatics programs will be winding down at the end of October. Cactus Pool will be hosting the 5A-II regional swim and dive meet. After school programs are currently in full swing. The Arizona Fall League will be playing through November 14 at Scottsdale Stadium. Fall Festival will occur on October 31.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public wished to address the Commission.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.

Meets established criteria.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Janice M. Cameron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Janice" being more prominent and the last name "Cameron" following in a similar style.

Janice M. Cameron
Parks and Recreation Director